



White-tailed Deer
Moose
Caribou
Elk
Mule Deer

Chronic Wasting
Disease (CWD)

Transport Into
Ontario

Transporting Live Captive Cervids Into Ontario

Notice and Permit Guidelines
September 2010.

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This guideline primarily provides assistance for obtaining a written **notice** from OMAFRA to transport live captive cervids into Ontario and secondarily includes general information for obtaining a **provincial permit** from MNR to transport live captive cervids into Ontario. In the case of errors, omissions or inconsistencies between these guidelines and the legislation, take notice that the legislation prevails. The reader should also review the law directly at www.e-laws.gov.on.ca.

Section 1.0: Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a neurological disease that is fatal in cervid species which include white-tailed deer, moose, caribou, elk and mule deer. CWD belongs to a group of diseases called transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, which includes BSE or “mad cow disease”.

It is widely held that CWD is caused by an abnormal protein called a prion, and the disease can be transmitted through animal contact with these prions. Prions are concentrated in certain body parts including the animal's brain, spinal column, lymph nodes, tonsils, eyes and spleen. Prions can be shed through bodily fluids including saliva, blood and urine, and once shed, prions persist in the environment for years.

Chronic Wasting Disease has not been detected in Ontario to date, but has been found in 20 provinces and states, including several nearby jurisdictions (e.g., New York, Saskatchewan, Minnesota). The movement of live cervids has been linked to the initial spread of CWD from the United States to Canada (Saskatchewan) as well as from Canada to South Korea. No jurisdiction has been able to eradicate CWD once it has been introduced to cervids in the wild despite extraordinary efforts and expenditures. Ontario has taken many actions to date to prevent this disease from entering the province, and needs to remain vigilant in these efforts.

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) has initiated additional measures to prevent CWD from entering Ontario. One preventative measure prohibits transport of live captive white-tailed deer, American elk, moose and woodland caribou into Ontario unless accompanied by a provincial permit. This includes animals being brought into Ontario and animals being transported through Ontario.

Section 2.0: Summary of Requirements for Transporting Live Captive Cervids into Ontario

- Recent amendments to Ontario Regulation 666/98 (Possession, Buying and Selling of Wildlife) under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* prohibit the transport of live captive cervids into Ontario unless accompanied by a **provincial permit**. **Provincial permits** are issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).
- Live captive cervids requiring a permit for transport into Ontario are white-tailed deer, American elk, moose, and woodland caribou.
- A **provincial permit** is required to transport live captive cervids into Ontario for purposes including
 1. captivity (i.e. farm, zoo or off-loading site) in Ontario;
 2. slaughter at a facility in Ontario; or
 3. transport through Ontario to another province or state.
- A **provincial permit** to transport live captive cervids into Ontario will be issued from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) under O. Reg. 666/98 when;
 - a) the person provides a written **notice** from the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) to the Minister of Natural Resources (MNR); and
 - b) the cervids are destined to a place for immediate slaughter in Ontario or transported through Ontario to another province or state; or
 - c) if destined for captivity in Ontario, a premises assessment indicating the regulatory measures to prevent the introduction and spread of disease have been met.
- Persons wishing to receive live captive cervids that will be transported into Ontario must apply for a written **notice** from OMAFRA and provide the required accompanying documentation.

- Written **notice** from OMAFRA will be provided if the Ministry is satisfied that the cervid(s) being transported into Ontario are:
 - a. From a herd that;
 - i. participates in (and is in good standing with) a chronic wasting disease surveillance program established in the herd's home jurisdiction. OMAFRA's policy is that this program must be consistent with the Canadian Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program (CCWDVHCP) and the herd has attained the equivalent of certified status under the jurisdiction's own program; and
 - ii. is certified by a qualified veterinarian in accordance with the chronic wasting disease surveillance program established in the herd's home jurisdiction.
 - b. Is unlikely to be at risk of spreading chronic wasting disease based on;
 - i. a qualified veterinarian's assessment of the animal's health; and
 - ii. the animal's history of movement over the last 36 months.
- When cervids are **NOT** off loaded and either slaughtered immediately upon arrival at an abattoir on a secure transport vehicle or transported directly through Ontario to another province or state in a secure transport vehicle, the requirements above, (a. and b.) apply.
- When cervids are off loaded at an Ontario premises (i.e. farm, zoo, abattoir, transfer station, etc.), the requirements above, (a. and b.), apply **AND** a **premises assessment** of the off-loading site must be completed. The assessment will be documented on a "Cervid Import Premises Assessment" and indicate if the premises is compliant or non-compliant with the regulatory requirements for measures to prevent the introduction and spread of disease.
- OMAFRA will forward the written **notice** and "Cervid Import Premises Assessment" (if applicable) to MNR for consideration prior to the issuance of a **provincial permit** under O. Reg. 666/98.
- Documents required for transporting live captive cervids into Ontario must be held by the individual transporting the animals.
- A **provincial permit** is **NOT** required for transport of live captive cervid(s) within Ontario (farm to farm movement within Ontario).

Section 3.0: Documents Required to Obtain a written Notice to Transport Live Captive Cervids into Ontario

Section 3.1: Persons responsible for providing documents

The Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) may provide a written **Notice** to a person wishing to transport live captive cervids into Ontario provided the Ministry is satisfied that it is unlikely that the cervid(s) pose a risk of introducing CWD into Ontario. Both the Buyer-Recipient and the Owner-Vendor must provide the documentation specified for the cervid(s) to be transported.

- The "**Buyer-Recipient**" is the individual receiving the imported live captive cervid(s).
- The "**Owner-Vendor**" is the producer of the live captive cervid(s) to be transported into Ontario.

Forward all applicable, completed, required documents to:

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Animal Health and Welfare Branch
1 Stone Road West 5th Floor NW
Guelph, ON
N1G 4Y2
Attention: Coordinator – Veterinary Services
Phone: 519-826-7612
Fax: 519-826-4375

Applications will be processed once all applicable, completed, required documents are received.

Section 3.2: Documents to be provided prior to issuance of a written Notice

The following are documents required for review prior to issuing a written **Notice** for the transport of live captive cervids into Ontario (for all transport purposes).

Buyer-Recipient is responsible for completing and providing,

- **Form 1 - Application for a Notice to Transport Live Captive Cervids into Ontario**

Owner-Vendor is responsible for requesting, completing and/or providing,

- **Form 2 - Owner-Vendor Attestation**
- **Form 3 - Veterinary Practitioner's Statement Regarding Animal's Health**
- **Form 4 - CWD Surveillance Program Veterinary Practitioner Statement**
- **Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Cervid Movement Permit**
- **Form 5 - History of Animal's Movement**
- If applicable, **Form 6 - Previous Herd's Veterinary Practitioner Statement**

Samples of the documents are provided in section 6.0.

Note,

If the live cervids are NOT off loaded and destined for immediate slaughter (slaughtered on a secure transport vehicle) or being transported directly through the province to another province or state in a secure transport vehicle, the site is **exempt** from the premises assessment. All documents above are required.

If the live cervids are to be off loaded at place of captivity, including at an abattoir or transfer station, a **premises assessment** must be completed for the off loading site in addition to submission of the above documents. OMAFRA staff will conduct the assessment and document on the "Cervid Import Premises Assessment". The assessment will indicate if the premises is compliant or non-compliant with the regulatory requirements for measures to prevent the introduction and spread of disease. The assessment will be forwarded to MNR for review and consideration for permit issuance purposes.

Section 4.0: How to Obtain a written Notice and Provincial Permit

Section 4.1: Procedure and process details

1. All applicable, required documents listed under section 3.0 must be completed and forwarded to the Coordinator – Veterinary Services of the Animal Health and Welfare Branch of OMAFRA. Ensure all documents are signed by the appropriate individual(s).
2. The Coordinator – Veterinary Services, or designate, reviews and verifies documents provided. Items to be verified may include;
 - participation in and status in a chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance program established in the herd's home jurisdiction that is consistent with the Canadian Chronic Wasting Disease Voluntary Herd Certification Program (CCWDVHCP) by contacting the agency or organization responsible for the surveillance program. CCWDVHCP status is updated annually and can be found at www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/disemala/cwdmdc/farmfermee.shtml.
 - signatures are present.
 - statement of the herd's qualified veterinarian indicates that the animals were healthy on the last farm visit (preferably within the last 60 days), and are unlikely to be a risk of spreading Chronic Wasting Disease.
3. Upon successful review and verification, the Coordinator – Veterinary Services or designate generates a "Notice to Transport Live Captive Cervids into Ontario" and drafts an accompanying letter to the Ministry of Natural Resources. (samples shown in section 6.0)
 - The **Notice** expires on the same date as the CFIA Cervid Movement Permit received for the shipment.

4. An OMAFRA veterinarian, with delegated authority from the Minister, reviews the documents and if acceptable signs the "Notice to Transport Live Captive Cervids into Ontario" and the letter to the Ministry of Natural Resources. A sample of a Notice is shown in section 6.0.

5. OMAFRA distributes the completed, signed **Notice** and accompanying letter.
 - Copies retained on file at OMAFRA.
 - Fax to the Buyer-Recipient and Owner-Vendor.
 - Fax to Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).
 - Mail originals to MNR.

6. Premises assessment is required if live captive cervids are to be off loaded to a place of captivity in Ontario, including an abattoir or transfer station. When required, the premises assessment is;
 - conducted by OMAFRA staff;
 - documented on a "Cervid Import Premises Assessment";
 - indicates if the premises is compliant or non-compliant with the regulatory requirements for measures to prevent the introduction and spread of disease; and
 - conducted each time an application for a written notice is submitted.

7. OMAFRA distributes the completed "Cervid Import Premises Assessment".
 - Copies retained on file at OMAFRA.
 - Fax to the Buyer-Recipient.
 - Fax to Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).
 - Mail originals to MNR.

8. MNR issues a provincial **permit** under O. Reg. 666/98 of the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* to transport cervids into Ontario to the Buyer-Recipient if the regulatory requirements to do so have been met. A sample is shown in section 6.0.

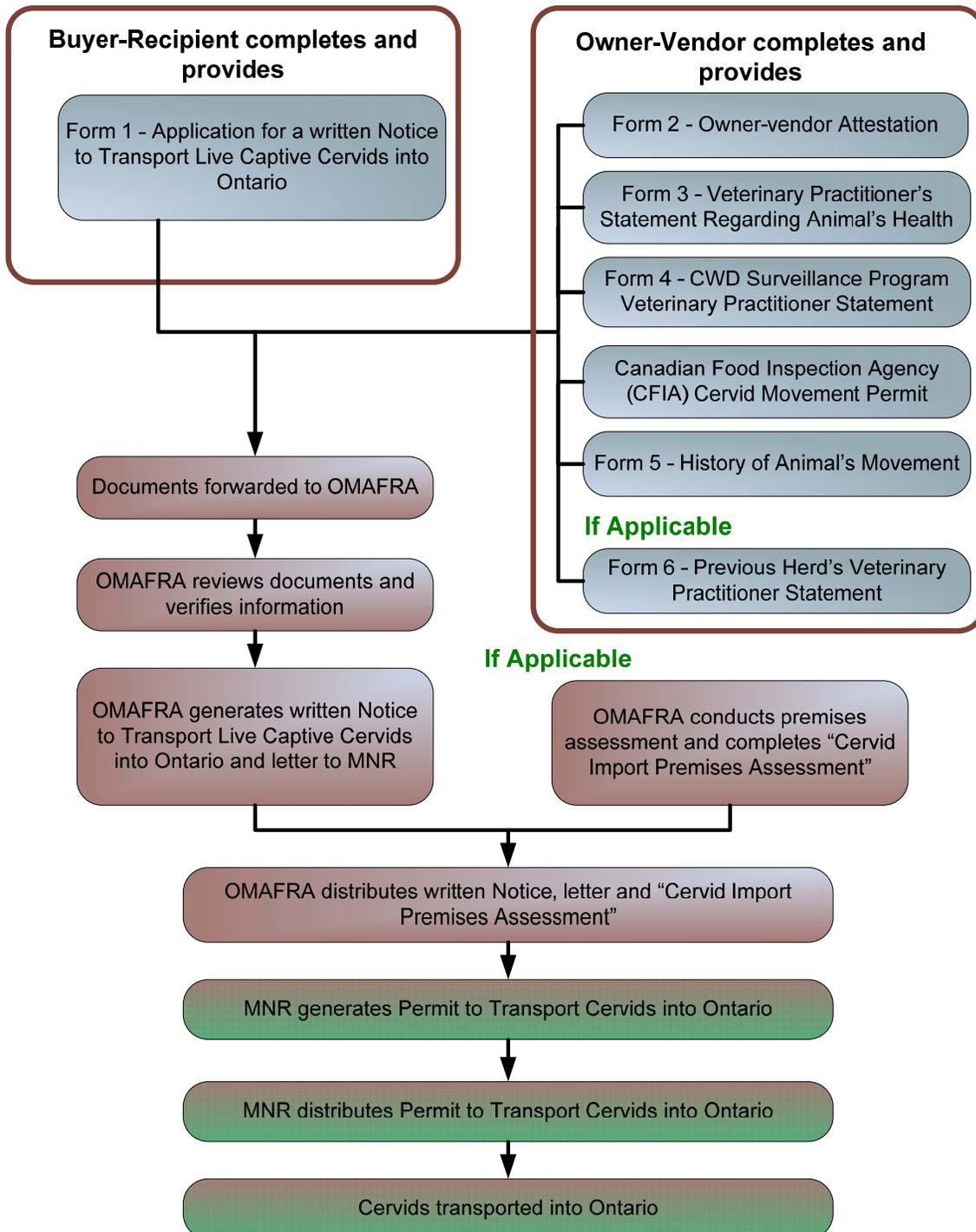
9. MNR provides OMAFRA with a copy of the provincial permit.

Flowcharts are provided in section 4.2.

Section 4.2: Flow Chart for Obtaining a written Notice and Permit for Transporting Cervids into Ontario

Process to Obtain a written Notice and Permit for Transport of Live Captive Cervids into Ontario

September 2010



Section 5.0: Contact Information

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Animal Health and Welfare Branch
1 Stone Road West, 5th Floor NW
Guelph, ON
N1G 4Y2
Phone: 519-826-7612
Fax: 519-826-4375
Attention: Coordinator - Veterinary Services

Ministry of Natural Resources

Wildlife Policy Section - Biodiversity Branch
300 Water Street, 5th Floor, North Tower
Peterborough, ON
K9J 8M5
Phone: 705-755-1963
Fax: 705-755-1900
Attention: Wildlife Policy Advisor

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) – Animal Health Offices

Can be found at: www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/offbure.shtml#a6

Canadian Sheep Federation (administrator of the National CWD Herd Certification Program)

Corlena Patterson, CWD Herd Certification Program Administrator
130 Malcolm Road
Guelph, ON
N1K 1B1
Toll Free: 1-866-534-1302
Local: 613-652-1824
Fax: 613-652-1599
admin@scrapiecanada.ca

Section 6.0: Sample Documents

Form 1 - Application for a Written Notice to Transport Live Captive Cervids into Ontario

Form 2 - Owner-Vendor Attestation

Form 3 - Veterinary Practitioner's Statement Regarding Animal's Health

Form 4 - CWD Surveillance Program Veterinary Practitioner Statement

Form 5 - History of Animal's Movement

Form 6 - Previous Herd's Veterinary Practitioner Statement

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Cervid Movement Permit

Notice to Transport Live Captive Cervids into Ontario

Permit to Transport Live Captive Cervids into Ontario